

ABSTRACT
WEB BASED DATABASE INQUIRY SYSTEM

5 The Web based Database Inquiry System provides custom tables in which are
stored information from an external database. The custom tables are designed to
arrange and format the stored information so as to anticipate a user's request thus
reducing time and cost associated with retrieving information arranged and formatted
as per the user's desire. The information stored in the custom tables are structured,
10 arranged and formatted in typical and atypical approaches derived from ad hoc studies
of patterns of user requests for particular applications and/or disciplines. The
information is stored in a structured layered fashion and the user is able to retrieve
information from the various layers through the use of a "drilling" operation. The
custom tables are populated by a process server preferably during times of low
15 database usage by users. The Inquiry System contains modules for different types of
information requested by the user and such modules contain the information to be
displayed to the user via a browser.